the Retail Outlet Dealer only and a master key would be available at the supply location. Since the locks used in this system are claimed to be tamper proof and duplicate keys cannot be made easily, enroute adulteration as well as enroute pilferage are expected to be eliminated.

Study on Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project

2546. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tata Energy Research Institute have tied up with the Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan for jointly studying all aspects of the proposed Indo-Iran gas pipeline project; and

(b) if so, by when their findings are expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Government has no information on the proposed joint study by the Tata Energy Research Institute, as Government approval is neither required nor sought by the Institute.

Criteria For LPG Connections to States

2547. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections which were given to each States in India during the last year; and

(b) the criteria adopted for sanctioning LPG connections to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) LPG connections are not allocated State-wise. New LPG connections were released in a phased manner throughout the country depending upon the LPG availability, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability during the last year. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies had released 119.85 lakhs LPG connections throughout the country during the calendar year, 2000. The State-wise details are given in the Statement.